

Santa Cruz
Fly Fishermen
Est. 1977



To promote,
educate, and
enjoy the sport
of fly fishing

DECEMBER

2019

CLUB MEETING

Date: Wednesday, December 4th
Time: Open - 6:45 PM
Meeting - 7:00 PM
Place: Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos"

Into the California Sierra Wilderness on Horseback By <https://goldentroutpacktrains.com>

Steve Day will be our December Speaker. He is native to the Mid-Sierra and has access to the 300,000 Acre Golden Trout Wilderness Region. He spent his early childhood and young adult life learning how to hunt and fish. He took his first pack trip into the Golden Trout Wilderness to Summit Lake in 1990, fresh out of high school. From that trip on, he knew he wanted to run a pack station. Steve now manages the 100 year-old Golden Trout Pack Station; May-October and continues to run his cattle operation in the off season.



Check out website for travel details, costs and selection of the different trips to different rivers for fishing. GoldenTroutPackStation.com (GPTS). There are a number of trips with different fishing destinations, full service pack trips, half and day rides, and more. Makes you want to go fishing once you see the photography, which is very impressive!! It is 4-5 hours or more by Horseback out to various campsites from the 100 plus year-old Pack Station to the fishing. The closest City is Porterville and the Golden Trout Pack Station is 1-1.5 hours from Porterville on Highway 190. The 300,000 plus acres of the Golden Trout Wilderness, includes the designated "Wild and Scenic" North and South Fork of the Kern River with exclusive access to 20 miles of the Upper Kern River, fishing for Rainbows and Volcano Creek Golden Trout.

In the presentation, Steve will cover some history and background on the Golden Trout Wilderness as well as the three heritage and native species you can catch on his trips to the Little Kern Golden, Volcano Creek Golden and Kern River Rainbow. He incorporates years of knowledge and experience on best areas in the fishery, water conditions, flies, gear and much more. He will also cover what to expect on a pack trip, and different trips offered, all of which is set forth in the website and holds a Q & A at the end for any questions.

ANNUAL FUND RAISER

Annual Dinner (and Raffle) January 25, 2020
by Annual Fund Raiser Coordinator Mark Traugott

Be sure to save the date for our annual dinner on **Saturday, January 25**. Ticket sales have already begun. We are strictly limited to 200 attendees, and last year we sold out, so buy your tickets early. This is the SCFF's biggest event of the year and one of the club's financial mainstays, but it can only happen thanks to the volunteer labor of our members. Many of the key positions will be filled by "old hands" with years of experience putting on this first-class event, but we are always in need of more help, and we would especially like to involve new members and those who haven't previously taken the opportunity to participate, whether with food preparation in the kitchen (call Elaine Cook at 831-688-1561), or with the setup of the dining hall, the administration of the raffle, or the final cleanup (call me, Mark Traugott, at 831-338-6056.) We will do our best to find the right place for you. (And if you want a bird's-eye view of the entire process and the satisfaction of seeing it all come together, the club is looking for someone who can assume the role of organizer for the 2021 dinner by learning the ropes this year. Call me to discuss what would be involved.)

Publisher's Note: The back page of your newsletter this month is a flyer for the fund raiser. Please print it out and give it to someone you think would enjoy our gala evening, or post it (with permission, of course!) at a local merchant's.

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President's Line

Happy Holidays

From President Tom Hogye

Happy Holidays, everyone. I hope this finds you beginning to find peace and rest after a nice Thanksgiving. I've worn out a few things over the year, so I'm really looking forward to Christmas as an opportunity to refresh my fly fishing gear! I'd encourage you to do the same, patronizing your favorite fly fishing places for the holidays or giving the gift for future fly anglers.

Our Fly Fishing Clinic at the San Lorenzo Park last month, was another overwhelming success. With our partners Coastal Watershed Council and the many volunteers who came to the event, there were well over 70 people and a lot of kids and couples learning fly-tying, casting and conversation. CWC gave away 21 fly rod combos they had from last year's educational series, so 21 kids left with some pretty awesome surprises. A great way to grow the future of fly fishing and care for our environment is to start with the youth of the world and their parents.

Oh-hey, speaking of the Holidays, you might also want to purchase your Annual Dinner/Fundraiser tickets for our January 25th event, for you and someone special. We're well into the planning of this fun annual event. Might be a nice Christmas gift for a friend, too! Maybe even a club membership? Or a donation to our growing Scholarship Fund for which we will participate again this year-6 high schools, 12 students. I'm hoping we can double what we did last year.

If you're interested in helping with the Annual Dinner/Fundraiser, I encourage you to reach out to Mark Traugott if you'd like to volunteer in the kitchen, sell raffle tickets, take



photos, or help at the end of the evening. It's so much fun.

Speaking of photos, if you have some photos you want to share at the January club meeting, please get them to Rich Rubin, richr@cruzio.com so he can add them to our fun annual January slide show.

Would you also do me a favor right now and think of someone in the club who has made an impact in your fly fishing experiences this year. If you can't make the club meeting, shoot me, thomashogye@yahoo.com or Kevin Murdock troutdock@sbcglobal.net, an e-mail with their name. We'll add them to the ballot box for the John Steele Award we hand out each year at the annual dinner. Or get to the December club meeting for a great presentation on packing into the Golden Trout Wilderness on horses and drop that person's name into the John Steele Award box.

We left October with almost no rainfall, some destructive fires and lots of power outages. Hopefully, at this writing, we've received some of the rain forecast, so we can have another nice Steelhead season. I'm looking forward to the rainy days, good flows, continued restoration of our local waters and the enjoyment we all have talking about the good days fishing on the San Lorenzo, Soquel, Aptos, Pescadero and beyond.

Happy Holidays and thanks to all of you for being part of SCFF, for serving, volunteering or simply allowing us to be a resource and encouragement for your fly fishing experiences. See you soon!

FLY FLYING CLASS

Date: Wednesday, December 11th

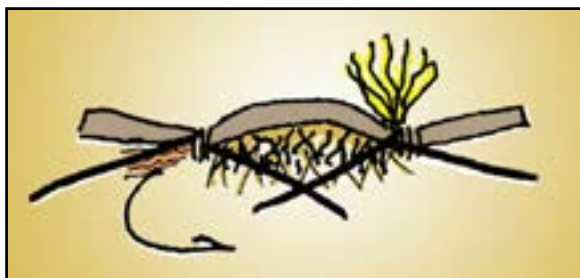
Time: Open - 6:45 p.m.

Class - 7:00 p.m.

Place: Aptos Grange Hall, 2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos

Plan B

Instructor: Elaine Cook - 699-1561



Here's an attractor that has a great reputation for trout, and it would be great to offer to a bass. It's big and easy to tie.

Sign-up at the December club meeting or call Elaine with at least 24-hour's notice. Bring your tools, vise, and 6/0 tan or yellow thread. Beginners are always welcome, and there are tools, vise, and thread for you to use. If you sign-up and later find you are unable to attend, notice of cancellations is appreciated.

Reel News

* The January Club Slide Show

Every year in January, we are treated to a slide show composed of photos we have taken of our many fishing exploits and other club activities, so in keeping with that tradition, it's time to turn in any and all photos you have taken on club fishouts or fishing trips you've taken on your own to Rich Rubin, at richr@cruzio.com. He needs your photos no later than December 15th, so he has time to compose the show, so cull through your digital media and get those pictures sent to them ASAP!

Note: Photos must be sent via e-mail as attachments, not saved to media such as CDs, DVDs or thumb drives.

* The John Steele Award

What is the John Steele Award, you may ask? It's a \$200 prize, given to the member of the club who has exhibited the characteristics that best exemplify the spirit of the Santa Cruz Fly Fishermen. Those characteristics are embodied in our club motto: "To promote, educate and enjoy the sport of fly fishing." The decision of whom receives the prize is up to a popular vote by members, and ballot slips are deposited in a special box that is present at club meetings. If you have ever had someone pay you a special kindness, such as telling you of a great place to fish, giving you a fly that is guaranteed to be a fish magnet, coaching you on technique, sharing a book with you about fly patterns, or helping you tie your own flies, vote for him or her. In short, vote for that special someone who has promoted fly fishing for you, taught you something new, and/or helped you enjoy your fly fishing experience. You can vote for more than one person, and we hope you do, because we all should be helpful to one another!

2019 Board of Directors

Officers:

President	Tom Hogue	214-7578
Vice President:	Kevin Murdock	688-4518
Treasurer:	Jim Tolonen	475-8859
Secretary:	Angela Johnson	(530) 320-

Committees:

Monthly Raffle:	Jeff Goyert	462-3785
Fishouts:	John Cook	688-1561
Newsletter Editor:	Kirk Mathew	724-6811
Webmaster/Newsletter:	Pat Steele	476-0648
Programs:	Jim Black	688-8174
Conservation:	Steve Rudzinski	462-4532
Membership:	Bob Peterson	251-8655
Fly Tying Master:	Elaine Cook	688-1561
Annual Raffle/Silent Auction:	[POSITION UNFILLED]	
Annual Fund Raiser Coordinator:	Mark Traugott	338-6056
Marketing/Publicity:	Michael McGannon	688-3025
Facilities Coordinator:	Stephen Rawson	588-9370

Ex Officio:

Fly Casting Master:	Sam Bishop	476-6451
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Member At Large:

Kathy Powers	728-4130
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Board Meeting: The board meeting is usually held on the third Wednesday of the month at the home of John and Pat Steele, 331 Cabrillo Ave., Santa Cruz, at 7 PM. Club members will be notified of any changes of meeting dates and locations. Club members are all welcome and need to submit any agenda items to the President ahead of time.

News: Members are encouraged to contribute news items. Submit copy to the editor, Kirk Mathew, 724-5611, k4mathew@sbcglobal.net. Please see calendar for the deadline each month.

They Work 4U

Governor Gavin Newsom

1303 10th St., Ste. 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814-<https://www.gov.ca.gov>
(916) 445-2841

Department of the Interior

Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.doi.gov/index.html>

Senator Dianne Feinstein

1 Post St., #2450; <http://feinstein.senate.gov/public>
San Francisco, CA 94104

Senator Kamala Harris

Washington D.C.
112 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
Phone (202) 224-3553

Anna Eschoo, 14th District Congresswoman

698 Emerson St.; annagram@mail.house.gov
Palo Alto, CA 94301 (650) 323-2984

Jimmy Panetta, 20th District US House of Representatives

228 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-2861

Senator Bill Monning, Assembly Dist. 17

701 Ocean St., #318-A, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 425-0401; <http://sd17.senate.ca.gov>

Assemblyman Mark Stone (D-Monterey Bay)

701 Ocean St, #318b, Santa Cruz, CA - (831) 425-1503
<http://asmdc.org/members/a29/>
(Assemblyman Stone is Chair of the California Environmental Caucus)



Fishout Schedule

Looking for Fishouts
Fishmaster John Cook

As you may have noticed, the 2019 Fishout Schedule has run its course. It was a fun year of outings, ranging from local surf fishing to out-of-state journeys, and the best thing caught in all of them was friendship. If there is anything better than catching a trophy fish, it's doing it with friends to cheer you on, and the fun of recounting the day's adventures over an evening meal simply can't be beat! So, be thinking about where you'd like to fish in 2020, and let our Fishmaster know if you're willing to host a fishout to share with your buddies. Do you have a place you like to fish and want to share that experience with others by having a Fishout? I, John Cook, our club's Fishmaster, am looking for people to put on one together. Fishouts can be simple or complicated. I will help to set up and organize the event. This is a great way to give back to those who have helped you, for Fishouts are one of the best ways to learn our fly fishing sport, discover places to fish, and get to know one another in our club. Give me a call, 688-1561.

Bait for Thought

Be Gentle



"Govern a family as you would cook a small fish--very gently." *Chinese proverb*

Catchy Releases

Restoring a San Mateo County Creek to Keep New Generations of Fish Thriving

By Peter Fimrite, *San Francisco Chronicle*, Nov. 5, 2019

The heavy construction equipment had been removed, so Kelly Nelson walked out on a breezy bluff to take stock of the stunning panorama of newly channeled waterways and marsh that she helped design near Pescadero State Beach.

The executive director of the San Mateo Resource Conservation District was admiring the restoration of 8,000 feet of the Butano Creek stream channel, the largest and most ambitious of a series of projects the district is spearheading to stop chronic flooding, bring back endangered fish and restore 28 acres of degraded wetlands at Pescadero Marsh Natural Preserve.

“Over many years people have altered this landscape - and Butano Creek has become disconnected from the floodplain,” said Nelson as she looked out over the creek, which snakes through coastal wetlands south of Half Moon Bay. “We’re trying to restore something that has ecosystem function.”

The 235-acre marsh, on the eastern side of Highway 1 in southwestern San Mateo County, is renowned for its natural beauty and is home to many rare plants and animals, including the California red-legged frog and the San Francisco garter snake.

The Butano Creek Reconnection Project will restore endangered coho salmon to a Creek in San Mateo County.

The two main creeks, Pescadero and Butano, flow through a patchwork of publicly and privately owned land and converge just west of the town of Pescadero. The watershed drains more than 8,000 acres of coastal mountains and redwood forests where winter storms have been known to dump 6 inches of rain or more. The problem, Nelson said, is that sediment flowing down from the hills built up over the years, forming a wall of mud that blocked the annual migration of coho salmon and steelhead trout. It also caused the two creeks to back up regularly and flood, sometimes all the way to the town of Pescadero. That floodwater would then filter through old farmland and regularly poison the lagoon with oxygen-depleted water. Fish die-offs have been occurring there for more than two decades.

The project, co-managed by California State Parks and paid for using \$7 million in federal, state and local grant money, removed 45,000 cubic yards of mud along 4,000 feet of lower Butano Creek and used it to fill in drainage ditches and deep-water gullies that contributed to the oxygen depletion problem. “This project removes that plug of sediment,” Nelson said, “giving water a place to go so that it doesn’t flood the town, giving fish a place to go so that they can spawn and complete their migration, and reuses that dredged material to fill up these low places in the marsh so that there’s a smaller volume of the oxygen-depleted water to minimize fish suffocating.”

The fix was needed, project officials said, because, even in a place as beautiful and seemingly pristine as this, the impact of human development on the environment is severe. Both Butano and Pescadero creeks are listed under the federal Clean Water Act as being impaired by sediment.

Thousands of coho salmon and steelhead trout once

spawned in the watershed, a bounty memorialized in the name Pescadero, Spanish for fishmonger.

The two salmonid species historically swam from the Pacific Ocean into a natural lagoon, through the marsh and up toward the headwaters near present-day Butano State Park, Pescadero Creek Park and Big Basin Redwoods State Park, where they spawned in gravel scoured clean by cold, fresh water.

The sprawling wetlands near the beach served as a refuge for wintering waterfowl and as a nursery for coho, steelhead, and many other fish, amphibians and reptiles. In the late 19th

century, Pescadero and Butano creeks were renowned fishing spots for vacationing San Franciscans.

Then, in 1923, the Santa Cruz Lumber Co. built a sawmill over Pescadero Creek. Rail lines were built, log ponds were created, and lumberjacks cleared the pristine forests of redwood and Douglas fir. At about the same time, farmers began building levees and draining portions of the marsh.

Much of the marshlands were used for agriculture from the 1930s

through the early 1960s, when the state began acquiring land in the area. All the activity increased the runoff of sediment into the creek system. At that time, the farmers would dredge silt that accumulated in Butano Creek below Pescadero Bridge to prevent the channel from filling up and spilling over.

The state acquired the marsh and lagoon in 1974 and created the preserve, which is part of Pescadero State Beach. It is the largest coastal wetlands estuary between Elkhorn Slough in Monterey County, 58 miles south, and Tomales Bay, about 90 miles north by car.

But without the farmers dredging, the mud built up, and by the early 1990s a solid block of silt separated upper Butano Creek from the lower portion of the stream. The water backed up almost every year, flooded roads and farmland, and sometimes lapped up against homes in the town of Pescadero, 2 miles away, where residents often had to stack sandbags.

The situation infuriated the locals, many of whom blamed state park officials for exacerbating the problem by halting dredging and not removing logjams in a timely fashion. Makeshift efforts by farmers, including bulldozing drainage channels, worsened the runoff problem, environmental scientists said. Anoxic water - low in dissolved oxygen - that seeped through oxygen-depleted soil was also blamed for suffocating hundreds of juvenile salmon, and endangered tidewater gobies, crabs and other species that entered the lagoon each year in the late fall when the sandbar between the lagoon and the ocean was breached.

Steelhead are still found in the watershed, but studies have shown that their numbers have declined steadily from about 10,000 in 1985 to less than 750 a few years ago.

No coho were returning to the two creeks by 2003, when 17,000 hatchery-raised coho were released into Pescadero Creek. Researchers said only three of their descendants were counted in 2015. Although a few carcasses have been found in Pescadero Creek in recent years, the species is considered functionally



....*Catchy Releases* - from p. 5

extinct in the Butano watershed.

The dredging project is an effort to reverse that downward spiral.

“This could be a key in recovering enough coho and steelhead to give them a fighting chance for survival,” said Nelson, who worked closely with landowners, local agencies and Pescadero residents to identify projects that would adequately address flooding and improve habitat for wildlife. “This is a dynamic system, so we want to manage it as a dynamic system, which is what is important to the species.”

The work reopened 10 miles of the upper watershed to salmon and steelhead and restored marsh habitat for the San Fran-

cisco garter snake, California red-legged frog and tidewater goby.

It is considered a critical step in a long-term effort, which will also include improvements to stock and farm ponds, rainwater storage projects, removal of fish barriers, and adjustments to farmers’ water rights so they can store water during the rainy months instead of taking it all during low flows in the summer.

The conservation district next plans to begin restoration of floodplains in the upper reaches of the watershed to improve spawning habitat and increase the number of baby fish that imprint on the creek and return to bear offspring three years later.

*Peter Fimrite is a San Francisco Chronicle staff writer.
Email: pfimrite@sfnchronicle.com.*

Fish-friendly changes at Nevada dam to help threatened trout

By Scott Sonner, Associated Press

WADSWORTH, Nev. - Federal officials are making fish-friendly modifications to a northern Nevada dam that for more than a century has blocked off native spawning grounds for a threatened trout species that once migrated 120 miles upstream from a high-desert lake to the alpine waters of Lake Tahoe.

Officials for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service and Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe broke ground Tuesday for a \$23.5 million fish-passage project to help Lahontan cutthroat trout navigate the Truckee River’s Derby Dam about 20 miles east of Reno.

As soon as next fall, fish screens in a bypass canal longer than a football field will allow the trout - once believed to have gone extinct - to get past the dam for the first time since it was built in 1905.

Commissioned by President Theodore Roosevelt, the dam was part of the first major irrigation system established in the West to “help make the desert bloom,” diverting water to farmers and ranchers in a region where only about 5 inches of rain falls annually. “This day is 100 years in the making,” said Jody Holzworth, deputy regional director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. “The fish screen will allow this iconic species to travel beyond Derby Dam, from Pyramid Lake to their spawning grounds, for the first time in more than a century.”

Lahontan cutthroat trout, the state fish of Nevada and largest trout in North America, used to grow as large as 60 pounds when they would climb 2,500 feet through mountain river canyons to Lake Tahoe, elevation 6,228 feet.

Tribal leaders and state and federal wildlife officials have been working for two decades to restore the fishery in Pyramid Lake - a remnant of ancient Lake Lahontan, an inland sea that covered 8,450 square miles of western Nevada during the Ice Age. The

Lahontan cutthroat trout also are native to parts of Oregon, Utah and Wyoming.

Dan Mosley, executive director of the Pyramid Lake Fishery for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, said the tribe has a long history of “fighting for the fish.”

“They are really important in our stories and our culture,” Mosley said.

In recent years, the fish have made their way several miles upstream from Pyramid Lake but haven’t been able to get past the Derby Dam.

The trout was thought to have gone extinct in the 1940s and was listed as threatened in 1970. But a remnant population later was discovered in a small brook on Pilot Peak along the Nevada-Utah border.

Beginning in 2006, that population has been used to successfully restock Pyramid

Lake, where Holzworth said anglers now regularly catch cutthroats as big as 25 pounds.

Cutthroats successfully spawned in Pyramid Lake in 2014 for the first time in 80 years and this year, 775 successfully spawned in the river between the lake and dam.

The bypass canal will include an 80-foot-wide, 390-foot-long horizontal fish screen - actually a metal plate with slots that pushes water down through the water system while sending the fish and other debris through the side channel.

The Farmers Irrigation District of Hood River, Ore., first developed what is now known as the “Farmers Screen” after severe flooding in 1996. The district licensed the patent to the nonprofit Farmers Conservation Alliance which since has completed 50 similar projects in several Western states.

This one is the largest and the first the Bureau of Reclamation has commissioned.



Fishy Tales

* Mid November - Pyramid Lake - Steve Rudzinski

I went to Pyramid Lake and fished with Gil Santos and Don Foskett and had another great experience. We found all the local float tubers and guided ladder standers at our secret spot (haha). I brought both my ladder and float tube and used neither. I like standing in the lake but did take a wave over my waders and had about a gallon inside. Twelve miles of dust and rattle trap road to warm trailer and clothes. The waves that morning were like fishing the surf, the wind was bad for lefty casting. We thought it would be great fishing in the storm but not for us, I hooked two fish at Blockhouse the last day - I had to try this trip. I got more fish on the cowboy than the midge but did lose a really big one on the balanced leech.

I think we got about five fish each this week; slow but I lost or missed more than I netted. Lots of larger fish and this one big 20 + that Gil netted (not gill netted).



...*More Fishy Tales* on p.6...

...More Fishy Tales - cont'd. from p.5...

Mid-November-Trinity River-Barry Burt-Best Laid Plans...

It was early Oct. when Yog, Jeff Goyert, called to put together a foursome for a two-day Trinity River Steelhead trip for the middle of November. I was in from the get-go, thinking that surely by then we would have sufficient rain to make for a decent trip. With Jim Tolonen and Michael McGannon onboard, we had all the makings for an epic adventure. Unfortunately, the best laid plans don't always turn out as expected. As our November 18th date approached, there hadn't been any rain at all up north and there was none in the forecast. A couple of days before our departure one of my students, who guides on the Trinity, messaged me and said the Trinity was really slow but the lower Sacramento River was on fire, so Yog called The Fly Shop and switched our second day to the lower Sacramento just in case the Trinity was a bust.

One of the highlights of the whole trip was the place we stayed at the first night. Indian Creek Lodge sits right on the Trinity River and you could literally fish right in their own back yard if you wanted to. Our accommodations were awesome. We had a complete kitchen, two bedroom, two living rooms and dining room for a mere \$65 a piece. When we found out that their restaurant wasn't open on Monday, we were invited to join them in the lounge for a complimentary full course lasagna dinner with ice cold beer and wine and a big screen TV to watch the game. If you're ever planning on fishing the Trinity, I would highly recommend staying at Indian Creek. The staff there truly make you feel like family.

The next morning our guides greeted us with the news that this was the lowest water that they had ever seen on the river but we were going to give it a shot in the canyon section and see what we could do.

Michael and I led the way down the first run with Greg Kennedy at the oars and while Yog and JT were receiving some last-minute instruction from their guide, Lonnie, Michael hooks



up on his third cast probably no more than three minutes into the run. As the boys in the boat behind us slid past us into the slot, Greg had just netted Michael's fish and was taking a couple of photo ops. I exclaimed, "That ain't a bad way to start the day!" With a bit of reservation in his voice, Greg responded with, "Yeah, it could also be the kiss of death." Little did we know at the time how accurate Greg's prediction would be.

We fished the whole rest of the day and Michael's fish was the only one landed. Even though everyone got grabbed at least once there was only one fish landed for four rods in two boats and that was it: the kiss of death. Our only consolation was that the next day we would be fishing the lower Sacramento and supposedly there would be plenty of fish to go around. As I said before the best laid plans don't always turn out as expected.

The next day we woke to 40mph winds in Redding and a cancellation by our guides due to safety concerns. So much for our consolation. We headed home a little disappointed but all agreed that a day drifting the wild stretch of the Trinity with its beautiful scenery and amazing wildlife wasn't such a bad way to spend the day.

Our consolation did finally come when we stopped at the Nut Tree Center in Vacaville for lunch and discovered The University of Beers. Not only did it have 70 beers on tap and a very knowledgeable and accommodating Beerista but the food was pretty darn good as well. And for those of you who don't know, our friend, Yog, doesn't drink so we always have our own built in designated driver.

All in all, it was a good fishing trip, just not so great of a catching trip. For me there were four very important take aways from this trip: #1 Indian Creek Lodge is the place to stay when fishing the Trinity; #2 I'd fish with Greg Kennedy in a heartbeat any day of the week. He's a great oarsman, extremely knowledgeable, patient, instructive and personable; #3 be a graduate of The University of Beers and finally; #4 If you hit the road with three of your most favorite people on the planet, you really can't help but have a good time.

MONTHLY RAFFLE

December Door Prize and Raffle!
By Monthly Raffle Director Jeff Goyert

Santa knows who has been naughty and nice. If you have been on the naughty side by not fishing enough or maybe even fishing too much, you can buy extra tickets to make sure you won't have an empty stocking.

We have a winners pick between an Echo 9 ft 4 section XL Carbon rod in either 5 wt. Or 6wt. Either rod is matched with Avid smooth drag reels, reel case, and Cordura-covered hard rod case. Fill that gap in your quiver and catch more fish!

Cold day on the river? Watching the sunset from the cabin couch? Celebrating that big fish with friends? Sounds to me that you could make good use of this Hook Line & Sinker 5 oz. stainless steel hip flask. Fill it with a few drams of your favorite beverage, keep it handy for just the right time.

Ever take a tumble in the stream and realized you were



without a wading belt? At the very least, you get a bit damp below the waist, don't even want to think about the worst-case scenario involving deep water. All of us, all the time, should be wearing a belt with our waders. We have a couple of two inch-wide high-density neoprene belts from Adams Built. They have Velcro adjustment and quick action side release buckles and they are adjustable out to 46 inches. Do yourself a favor by winning one at the raffle.

DOOR PRIZE / EVERYBODY GETS A FREE TICKET!!!!

This month we have Yeti Rambler as a great door prize. It is not a cooler but rather a 20 oz. tumbler, stainless steel with double wall insulation. Includes SCFF logo sticker! Keeps hot stuff hot and cold stuff cold. Great on a road trip or sitting around the fire.

GONE FISHING

O'Neill Forebay Fishout Fishmaster: Steve Rudzinski

I could not make last month's deadline to report on the annual fishout at O'Neill Forebay and wanted to thank all those who attended: Jeff Goyert and Don Foscett were there in the dark when I rolled in Wednesday, October 16. I discovered my usual Palapa was occupied and I had cut to fit some heavy plastic wind breakers I measured in an earlier trip. The next palapa #26 was available but the posts of the palapa were further apart than #28. It had to be a creative fix, but we had the wind off the table and kitchen. The boys were hooking fish out there the whole time. Don donated a lot of firewood before he left that day and Jeff left some smoked salmon for the campers the first night.

Bob Garbarino, Elaine Cook, Tim Loomis, Cecilia and Richard Stipes, Robert Eberle, Sam Bishop, Kevin Murdock, Mike White, Steven and Milana Rawson and a new member Steve (aka PH) he preferred and another person or two whose names I cannot recall (apologies). Many camped a few nights or lodged outside the campground. Some went home for appoint-

ments and returned to enjoy all the good company and lots of laughs all around the fire every night. Nobody was injured other than some fogginess from the last bottle of whiskey.



Wind was the problem a lot of the time, one day the red flashing warning lights were on all day and even float tubes had to be off the water. Some of us tried casting from shore for bass with poppers, Elaine was the bass master this trip, when the striper action was dead, she went top water for bass and landed a few that day, one over 18" from her tube before she had to come in from the wind

and waves. For the rest of us, it was slow this year, average of five fish a day is slow, there were no top water feeding frenzies and fish showing up on the "Fishing Buddy II" (sonar fish finder).

Special thanks to Kevin and PH for cooking up the final breakfast for Steve and Milana, the Stipes and myself. Kevin can cook up a storm and that was the tastiest breakfast ever. His dog cleaned up! See you all next year. *Steve/Stosh*

The MBSTP Albacore Feed By Steve Rudzinski

This was my second year volunteering as morning "fish monger" on the day of the annual albacore dinner, silent auction and raffle to benefit the work of our local trout and salmon research and rearing facility up the coast in Swanton, just north of Davenport off a windy narrow road to a place that seems like a trip back in time just going from the locked gate to the hatchery itself at the end of the dirt road. If you have not been there, it would be worth your time to volunteer for some future duty. I started volunteering to clip fins on the steelhead trout back in 2009 and moved on to the sea pen assembly and salmon delivery to the harbor almost as many years.

Filleting started about 9 a.m.; we waited in the parking lot till the coolers of fish showed up. It was my turn to drive as I just got a good deal on a 99 GMC Yukon(ski) last week and met with Sam Bishop and Jeff Goyert to show it off, Barry Burt met us there. We were lucky to have clear sailing to the community center and missed the traffic jam south.

About 7 or 8 of us were cutting up fish, some faster than others, I went fast enough to not make a mess of that beautiful fish as we had a lot of fish to fillet, I heard it was around 400 lbs. or about 40 fish. Albacore are pretty messy and oily inside, outside the amazing 'torpedo' evolution had created the perfect fish or at least one of the top 10.

Fortunately, one of the volunteers, a crab fisherman, took a couple 5-gallon buckets of tuna carcasses away. I tried to get the little tidbits of chunks of fish for the chef to stir fry up with some rice for a small bowl of hot breakfast for the "boys of the blades". (so delicious).

We hung out in the parking lot after helping carry in tables for the dinner event later that day. Sam had some cold brews and Yog had some water. I took the water, driving you know! Getting out of waders and boots, part of the dress code. I only got fish all over my hands and wrist which I discovered later

(at the dinner) my watch band held some of the albacore aroma.

Later that day we carpooled again to the event, Sam set off about 20 seats for our club members, we made our bids for items on the silent auction tables and met with the friends we have not seen since the event last year. I liked the bartender, Dave, who let you decide how much booze to pour into your cup.

I had a couple stiff bourbon and sodas which set off the tuna dinner nicely, (Yog was duty driver) I had a second helping and even took home a plate of fish which seemed like we had a lot extra this year.

I didn't see many of our club members there and the prizes are more to the liking of spin casters and hardware draggers in the bay. There were a lot of other things to bid on not just for fishermen also. Everything I wrote my name down on was over bid. (sneaky last-minute types) ha. Jeff got the gear bag

he wanted for about retail price. I think MBSTP did well this year.

So another year has passed and the next morning (another long story) Sam and I met at San Lorenzo park to put fly rods in the hands of the public again (Coastal Watershed Committee, CWC). The kids I helped were super awesome and it looks like the sport will last into the next generation just fine.



GEARING UP

Pyramid Lake Fishout, March 15th-21st, 2020
Fishmaster: Mike White - (831) 706-5556

The Pyramid Lake trip is one of the best-attended fishouts the club has, and for a good reason. Lahontan Cutthroat Trout cruise parallel to the shore in easy casting distance from shore. Cost for the week including meals and lodging and is around \$300-plus per person depending on the number in attendance. You need not fish all six days as there may be openings (usually later in the week.) Contact Mike for more details (831) 706-5556, to check on openings, or be put on a waiting list. First come first served.

You can also make your own arrangements either by bringing your own RV (Pyramid Lake Lodge has hook-ups and sells permits to park on the any of the beaches along the lake) or staying in Reno. Reno is 45 minutes away. Call Pyramid Lake Lodge to inquire about last minute cancellations in their cabins as well (775) 476-0400 and check out their website to see what the cabins look like at www.pyramidlakelodge.com. The General Store in Sutcliff offers meals on selected nights only to those who call in before 2:00 PM. Check at the General Store for details.

Equipment: 6-9 weight rods with hi-speed, hi-D shooting heads or fast sink integrated lines to fish the bottom in 6 to 9 feet of water, and a floating line for indicator fishing. You should bring a stripping basket and a ladder that will accommodate it. A ladder helps to get you up out of the cold water and enables you to cast out to where the fish are. You can still catch fish without one but not with nearly as much consistency.

Flies: Woolly buggers in black, white, purple, olive, midge, caddis and mayfly nymphs to name a few. Flies may also available from club member Jim Hall who ties some very good flies specific to Pyramid cutthroat as well as other species at reasonable cost. His number is (831) 713-6835. There is a general store with provisions as well as tackle and an assortment of flies.

How to get there: Take US 80 to Reno-Sparks, take the Pyramid Blvd. off ramp and go north about 35 miles. Crosby Lodge is at Sutcliff, near the Ranger Station.

If you have any questions about equipment or how to get there, check the "Gearing up" columns in the March 2007-2009 archives on our great club website, or call Mike White at (831) 706-5556.

If you are considering going to Pyramid again this year with the club and you have not already done so, please contact the person who is booking the trailer you stayed in last year. Trailer-masters, if your trailer has gaps or cancellations, you can call Mike so he can pass the names of members who don't have lodging to fill the empty spots.

Fishing, Camping, and New Ladder Regulation: Fishing and camping permits can be purchased online prior to the fish-out. We would highly recommend doing this. Go to www.plpt.nsn.us to obtain your licenses. There is also an RV Park available at (775) 476-1155.

As with any great fishery there are always a long list of rules and regulations. We would recommend you review them on the website above. Suffice to say those of us who have been going to Pyramid Lake for many years are a good source of information as well. We will help inform and guide all newcomers.



15.6 USE OF LADDERS, ETC. Any ladders, milk crates, boxes or other objects used in the water as a fishing aid must be occupied or closely attended (i.e. remain in the area) by fishermen at all times. Any person who leaves such objects unoccupied in the water for more than one hour will be deemed guilty of littering. 15.6.1 Fishing aids described above must have a permanent tag affixed that has the name, address, and phone number of the owner of the fishing aid. If the permitted angler

using the fishing aid is not the owner, the owner will be the responsible party for any infractions by the permitted angler.

Last year I observed people parked closer than 100 feet to the lake. I asked several of them about it, and the response was the Rangers weren't enforcing it. This prompted me to contact the lead Ranger by phone. He said, "We are most definitely going to enforce the 100-foot ordinance!" So, when parking your vehicle, you must be a minimum of 100 feet from the lake's water line. Also, you need a permanent tag affixed to your ladder with your name, address, and phone number on it. Most of us who use fiberglass ladders use a heavy black magic marker to write the necessary information directly on the ladder. There are also tags which can be purchased from local fly shops, for a fee.

This year I have four trailers reserved. (6,7,8, and 9) As of November 1st 2019 all trailers are full. Of course, we will always try to accommodate any newcomers, so contact Mike at (831) 706-5556 and we will figure out a way for you to experience the thrill of catching a 10-plus pound LCT. You can always make your own arrangements by contacting the Pyramid Lake Lodge at (775) 476-0400. Mike White (831) 706-5556, lumberguy73@hotmail.com

NOTE: Due to insurance regulations, all attendees must be paid up members of Santa Cruz Fly fishermen, so get your membership paid up if you haven't done so yet.



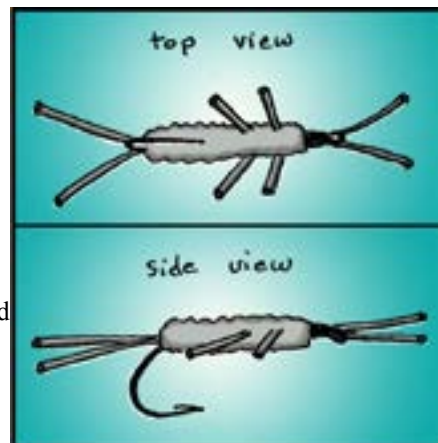
FLY OF THE MONTH

Girdle Bug

This subsurface fly has been around a long time. I've found it very effective in reservoirs using a sinking line and a slow strip or twitch to give it action. I'd use it for either trout or bass. By the way, it's very easy to tie.

Hook: TMC 5263, sizes 4 - 10
Thread: Black 6/0
Legs: White or black rubber legs
Body: Black chenille

1. Crimp barb.
2. Attach thread behind eye and wrap one layer to rear of shank.
3. Remove about 1/4" of fuzz off center strings of chenille.
4. Tie strings to top of shank, chenille to rear.
5. Advance thread to mid-shank.
6. Cut a piece of rubber leg 3 times the length of shank. Tie center to top of the shank. Fold both strands to rear of shank.
7. Bring chenille up between legs. Tie down forcing legs inward. (see diagram)
8. Advance thread to mid-shank. Wrap chenille forward in touching wraps.
9. Cut piece of rubber leg material 2 times the length of shank. Tie center to far side of shank.
10. Repeat step #9 on near side of shank. Fold chenille back and secure with one thread wrap.
11. Secure forward rubber legs to shank half way to hook eye.
12. Wrap chenille forward; secure with 2 thread wraps.
13. Make 2 chenille wraps in front of legs forcing them outward. Secure chenille with 2 thread wraps.
14. Cut piece of rubber leg 2 times length of shank. Tie center to top of shank. Fold legs forward. Snugly tie to shank behind eye. Wrap chenille forward to legs. Tie down. Cut excess chenille.
15. Wrap thread head backward. Tie off, cut thread.
16. Apply Zap-a-Gap to head.
17. Trim legs (see diagram).



LifeLines

Generator Safety

From <https://safeelectricity.org>

Portable or permanently installed standby generators can come in handy during long-term power outages. However, if you do not know how to use them properly, they can be dangerous. Contact a qualified vendor or electrician to help you determine what generator is best suited to your needs. Before using, read and follow manufacturer's instructions.

If you are installing a permanent generator, it must have a transfer switch. The transfer switch prevents energy from leaving your generator and going back onto the utility electrical equipment, when it could be dangerous to a lineman or others near downed power lines, a process known as "back feed." A qualified electrician should install your generator and transfer switch.

Safe Electricity has the following tips to use portable generators safely:

- * Operate it outdoors in an area with plenty of ventilation. Never run a generator in a home or garage. Generators give off deadly carbon monoxide.
- * Do not plug a generator into the wall to avoid back feed. Use heavy-duty extension cords to connect appliances to the outlets on the generator.

* Turn the generator on before plugging appliances to it. Once the generator is running, turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Remember, generators are for temporary usage; prioritize your needs.



Generators pose electrical risks, especially when operated in wet conditions. Use a generator only when necessary when the weather creates wet or moist conditions. Protect the generator by operating it under an open, canopy-like structure on a dry surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it. Always ensure your hands are dry before touching the generator.

Be sure the generator is turned off and cool before fueling it.

Keep children and pets away from portable generators. Many generator components are hot enough to burn you during operation.

Safe Electricity suggests these safety guidelines and basic operating instructions be posted in the home and with the generator.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

How to Cook and Clean A Dungeness Crab

From <https://www.formerchef.com>



How to Cook:

Dungeness Crab season is upon us. Much of the time you will find whole crabs already cooked and chilled. If not, and you're buying live crabs, then the rule of thumb is to steam or boil them for 7-8 minutes per pound. If boiling in multiple crabs, start timing when the water comes back to a boil. Base the number of minutes needed for cooking on the average crab weight, not the total weight.

Once your crab is cooked, rinse under cool water until just cool enough to handle. The crab in the photo below is a cooked crab. You can tell because the shell has turned from a blue/gray when alive to a bright orange when cooked.



How to clean the crab:



Turn the crab on its back and remove the triangular shaped flap called the "apron" and discard.



Hold the crab vertically and pull the top shell (called the carapace) away from the body and set aside. Rinse and clean the top shell and reserve if you want to use in your presentation.



Remove the gills/lungs and discard. Remove the mandible (mouth) and discard.



Rinse the body and then cut or break in half down the center.



Cut the legs into sections through the body. Gently crack the legs with a mallet or the back side of a heavy knife or cleaver.



To serve, place the cracked legs on a platter or individual plates with your choice of sauce and fresh lemon wedges.

If serving cold, chill in the refrigerator until ready.

If serving hot, serve immediately or rewarm in steamer basket for 30 seconds.

Serve cold with cocktail sauce, fresh wedges of lemon, garlic aioli, or for a classic 1950's throwback, Russian dressing.

Serve hot with melted butter, fresh wedges of lemon, garlic butter or stir-fry Singapore style with chilies and tomato.

To eat, remove the crab meat with your fingers or pick it out with a small oyster fork, lobster pick, or the tip of a crab claw.

Provide discard bowls for your guests to place the empty shells, and plenty of napkins or even hot damp towels for cleaning hands at the end of the meal.

DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <i>1st Qtr. ☾</i>	4 Club Meeting 7 PM Aptos Grange	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Fly Tying Class-7 PM Aptos Grange	12 <i>FullMoon ☽</i>	13	14
15	16	17	18 Board Mtg. 7 PM Steele home	19 <i>Last Qtr. ☾</i>	20	21
22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 <i>NewMoon ●</i>	27	28
29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>				

JANUARY 2020

NOTE: CLUB MEETING
IS NOT ON 1st WED.
DUE TO NYD HOLIDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3 <i>1st Qtr. ☾</i>	4
5	6	7	8 Club Meeting 7 PM Aptos Grange	9	10 <i>FullMoon ☽</i>	11
12	13	14	15 Board Mtg. 7 PM Steele home	16	17 <i>LastQtr. ☾</i>	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>NewMoon ●</i>	25 Annual Fund Raiser-5PM Peace United Church
26	27	28	29	30	31	

History of Fly Fishing
from <https://johnperryflyfishing.com/history-of-fly-fishing/>

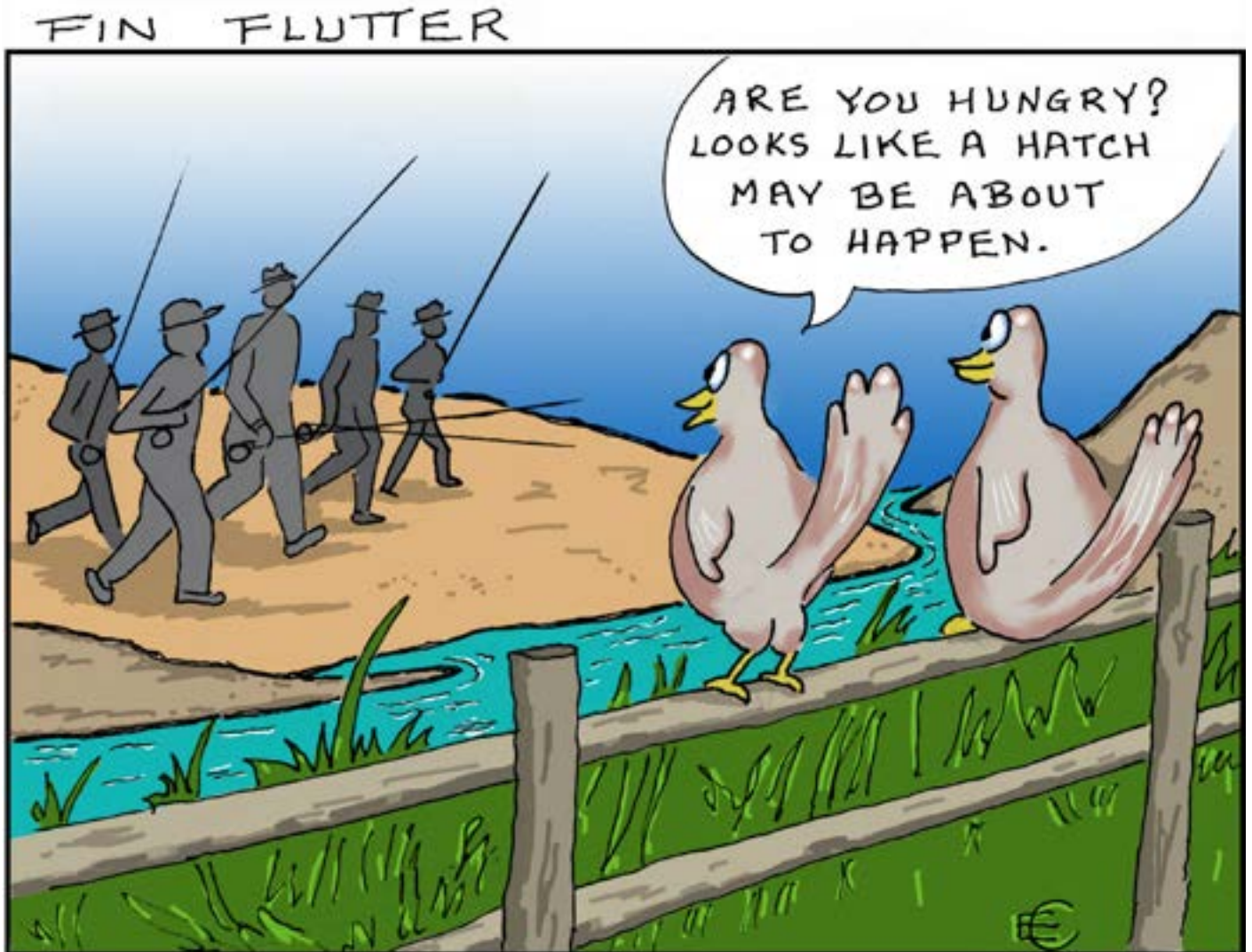
The first written mention of fly fishing in the history of fly fishing seems to be from the Romans, describing the way the Macedonians fished on the Astraeus River. The Macedonians were using flies even then, tying “red wool” around two feathers. Their rods were six feet long, and so were their lines. The Romans were apparently impressed.

Little else was written about fly fishing until a book was published in 1496, written by a woman in Great Britain. Dame Juliana Berners was not just a fisherman, she was also into hawking, hunting and field sports. And she was a nun. There was a poem written about fly fishing in 1613, said to be penned by a fishing partner of William Shakespeare.

British fly fishing continued to develop until in the 19th Century, there were fly fishing clubs and books written on fly tying and fishing techniques. Dry fishing gained a reputation as being the only way to fish the slower rivers, but as always, there were rebels. George Edward MacKenzie Skues proved with his nymph and wet fly techniques on those same rivers, and even wrote two very influential books about them.

The Practical Angler was published by a Scotsman, W.C. Stewart, in 1857.

Fly fishing was adopted about that time in both Scandinavia and the United States, where people weren't nearly so rigid about where and how to use what.



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